

Glad Tidings Magazine

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Vol. XXX No. 9

OCTOBER, 1955

How is YOUR Missionary Spirit?

OCT 6 1955



LEADING CHURCHES

Total Missionary Giving
January to June, 1955

1. SACRAMENTO, Bethel
\$7702.45
2. MODESTO, Bethel
\$6261.26
3. TURLOCK, Bethel
\$4238.74
4. SAN JOSE, Calvary
\$4170.69
5. OAKLAND, First
\$2847.19
6. SAN FRANCISCO, G. T.
\$2838.64
7. REDWOOD CITY,
\$2259.69
8. EL CERRITO,
\$2055.00
9. MORGAN HILL
\$2000.71
10. BERKELEY, First
\$1939.68

At Bethany Bible College there's an

ENCOURAGING GROWTH

As *Glad Tidings* goes to press, the enrollment at B. B. C. has exceeded 180, and new students are still arriving. This total compares with not more than 160 total enrollment a year ago, and it sets a new high for the past seven years. There is an excellent spirit in the student body. Throughout the campus one senses a heart-warming atmosphere of gratifying Christian fellowship together with a constraining spiritual expectancy. The faculty this year numbers 12, and this too is something of a record.

The fourth year program is now a definite part of the College, and although the fourth year class is small, it is taking its place in the life of the school. It is planned that May 26, 1956, will constitute the first graduation at the fourth year level; though there will continue to be a number of three year graduates

also.

New faculty members this season include: Gerald Boyd, Registrar; T. Kermit Jeffrey, part time instructor; and K. M. Haystead, also part time instructor. Each of these latter two brethren are continuing to maintain their previous ministries.

The spring semester at Bethany Bible College begins January 24, 1956. Those who plan to attend ought to proceed to make application as soon as possible, for sometimes there are delays in the process. Those desiring information about Bethany Bible College should address: Registrar, Bethany Bible College, 800 Bethany Drive, Santa Cruz, California.

LOS BANOS HOMECOMING

On October 16, the Los Banos Assembly of God is having a Home Coming for all the pastors and former members of the assembly. There will be special service throughout the day. Former pastors and members are asked to plan to attend and they should contact Pastor Eugene Lawrence, 1231 Fourth Avenue, Los Banos, California.

Personal Mention

Former District pastors, RICHARD and LAURA ORCHARD, are now pastoring in Toledo, Oregon.

Many in our District were pleased and duly impressed to see "Time Out For Summer" in the August 28 issue of HiCall, by MRS. H. P. WILSON, the wife of Roseville pastor, R. A. WILSON.

KELSEY C. PRINZING, Jr., a B. B. C. student, has just returned to college after holding a one-week revival meeting in South Gate, California. The pastor is N. E. Gresham.

Glad Tidings Magazine

The Official Organ of the
Northern California and Nevada
District Council of the
Assemblies of God, Inc.

P. O. Box 961, Santa Cruz, California

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Published monthly under the supervision of the District Council Presbytery.

The copy deadline for articles for *Glad Tidings* is the seventh of each month. The deadline for news is the eleventh of each month. *Glad Tidings* is published so as to be distributed on the first Sunday of each month.

Subscription price, \$1.50 a year; Canada, \$1.60; Foreign, \$1.75. Single copies, 10 cents.

Entered as second class matter July 3, 1926, at San Francisco, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Re-entered September 6, 1950, at Santa Cruz, Calif.

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The Current Signs page is contributed by
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ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE

J. Narver Gortner

God has a purpose concerning His saints, and that purpose He is able to carry out. He is the omnipotent God, and we are definitely told that *"with God all things are possible."* Jeremiah said *"Every purpose of the Lord shall be performed"* (51:29); while Isaiah wrote *"The Lord of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it?"* (14:27).

THE NATURE OF GOD'S PURPOSE

What is the purpose of God concerning His saints? It is just this: it is that they shall be overcomers and that ultimately they shall stand divinely approved in His sight; it is that they shall live with an eye single to His glory with exceeding joy. In other words, it is that they be conformed to the image of God's Son!

The standard is high, and it is impossible for any one of us, apart from the grace of God and His divine power, ever to reach it. But the same Word that tells us that *"with God all things are possible,"* tells us also that *"all things are possible to him that believeth."* If we who are believers work in co-operation with Him *"in whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will"* (Eph. 1:11), the necessary work will in due time be accomplished and we shall merit the divine approval.

OUR PART IN THE PURPOSE

The idea that God works apart from us in perfecting us is utterly false! Though it may be that we are not required to work in our own strength but in His, there are some things that positively we must do. We must purpose to be saved in order to be saved, and we must purpose to go on with God and be presented faultless before the presence of His glory if that ever is to be our experience. Paul said: *"Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have*

apprehended: but this one thing I do, . . . I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:12-14). Certainly these words do not indicate that Paul did nothing to perfect himself but just left everything to the sovereign will of God! How in error was the woman with the unsaved husband who said: "I never do anything to get him saved. I do not even pray for him. He is in the hands of God; if he is to be saved he will be saved, and if he is to be lost, he will be lost. There is nothing I can do. So I just let him alone, and say nothing and do nothing." Undoubtedly many people in the world today are in sin, away from God, and under condemnation, and they will ultimately reach the destiny toward which they are hastening, for the tragic reason that God's children — the Lord have mercy on us — just let them alone and say nothing and do nothing!

J. Narver Gortner is one of our Pentecostal old-timers, known and loved throughout our movement. He has had an outstanding career as a pastor, teacher, and leader in the Assemblies of God. At one time he was president of Glad Tidings Bible Institute. He has also served as executive presbyter, and has pastored some of the leading assemblies. At present, he is living in Berkeley in retirement.

has been made, the Gospel has been preached, the invitation has been extended, the herald has cried: "Come, for all things are now ready." And we have come, and we are asking God to finish the work He has begun. And He will do it, unless we become rebellious and refuse to co-operate with Him to this end. The purpose of God is based upon His righteousness, and His righteousness forbids His forcing His will upon hearts made unwilling by persistent rebellion against God.

We are assured in Romans 8:28 that *"all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose."* God's purpose is set forth in verse 29 *"For whom he did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."* Paul was saying, those whom God foreknew would accept the conditions of salvation were

We shall reach the goal and sing
When the race we shall have run,
And our Lord, our Christ, our King,
Will then say, "Well done!"

We shall thank Him for each test
That we now are passing through;
In that land of peace and rest,
We shall say, "God knew."

J. N. Gortner

GOD'S WORKING WITHIN US

God's purpose concerning His saints is that they shall be conformed unto the image of His Son, and to this end He is working on our behalf. Only those who are conformed to the image of His Son can be bridehood saints. Some of us, however, do not like the process that we have to go through in order that we may be perfected. Our Lord is selecting His bride from the lost Adamic race. Christ died that it might be possible for our sins to be forgiven, our souls redeemed, and our hearts cleansed. He did not die in vain. The provision

destined to be made the original pattern, the Lord Jesus.

Now it is asserted that to the end that this purpose may be accomplished *"all things work together for good to them that love God."* When God says *"all things"* He means *all things!* Even though there are so many things that do not seem to be for our good, they really are. Our problem is that we are unable to see the end from the beginning and we lose sight of God's plan to cause us to be conformed to the image of His Son. We have in mind earthly prosperity

(Continued on Page 11)

Evangel College Dedicated

Reported by FERNE MURRAY

The Missouri sky was still and blue on the morning of September 8th, 1955. The sun assured us of its warm blessings as it glanced toward what had been the buildings of Fort Riley Hospital — buildings that once had sheltered war-broken and maimed humanity.

This was the special day of Dedication. Now these buildings bore the title "Evangel College," no longer to "tend and shelter" but to "train and serve."

Three outdoor services on the lawn in front of the Administration Building were planned for the day. The Convocation was at 10 A. M. with Reverend Charles W. H. Scott, Chairman of the Board of Directors as speaker. The Honorable Dewey Short, Member of Congress, State of Missouri was the speaker for the "Order of the Inauguration of Klaude Kendrick as First President" at the afternoon service. The processional of this impressive service included representatives from 19 different colleges, as well as our own Executive brethren.

The evening Dedication Sermon

was delivered by General Superintendent Ralph M. Riggs. He stressed that Evangel College was a liberal arts college dedicated to "lay young people."

Evangel College is a "series of miracles." The General Council in 1953 authorized its beginning. God sanctioned this move by causing the Government to give the Assemblies

of God the 58 acres with 70 buildings and landscaped yards, at 100% discount — A Million Dollar gift!

Those present from Northern California included: Enoch Christoffer-son (mayor of Turlock) who participated in the processional, Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Curtright and son, Rev. and Mrs. Wm. T. Scott, Rev. W. Rouse, Rev. and Mrs. E. Wm. Anderson and Rev. and Mrs. Raymond P. Murray. A congratulatory telegram from Bethany Bible College was read at the afternoon service.

MISSIONARY HOME IN PASADENA

A recent letter from W. C. Peirce, now of Bethany Church of Alhambra, informs us concerning the CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY REST HOME in Pasadena. Brother Peirce tells us that the home has been operating for thirty years and has been a blessing to a generation of missionaries and ministers. "The Home is conveniently located in Pasadena, on a main thoroughfare about 2 miles from the heart of the city. Convenient city bus lines pass nearby. It affords missionaries an opportunity for a comfortable home while ministering in the area or when leaving for the field from

the Port of Los Angeles. In addition to comfortable sleeping rooms, there is a kitchen for the use of guests. Rates are very reasonable. Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Boddy serve as custodian and matron of the Home. They will be happy to make guests comfortable. Those wishing to secure the use of the accommodations of the Home may write to: Christian Missionary Rest Home, 585 E. Washington Street, Pasadena 6, California. The telephone is SYcamore 7 2917." No doubt many of our people will be glad to be informed of this Rest Home and we thank Brother Peirce for this report.

30th Annual

Christ's Ambassadors

FALL CONVENTION

★ **NOVEMBER 23 - 25**

★ **MARK BUNTAIN**

International Evangelist

Main Speaker

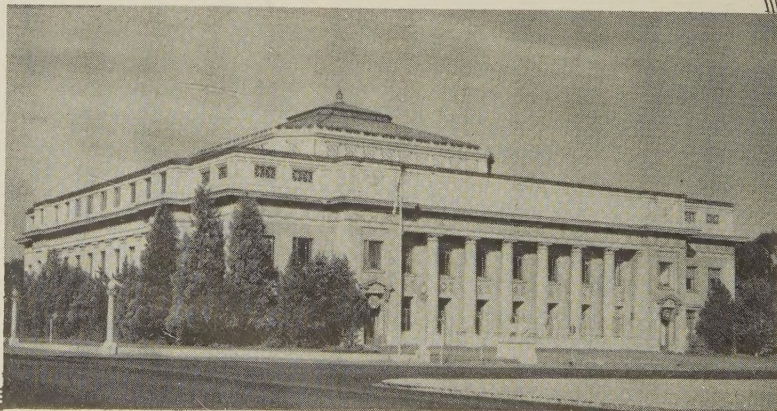


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And she said "I Will Go"

by RICHARD ORCHARD

The words "I will go" are the key words in that wonderful story in Gen. 24. Abraham had conceived the plan of sending the servant to the Old Country to find a bride for Isaac. The servant, Eliezer, had faithfully carried out his part of the plan. He had gone to the right place and had spoken the right words. His job could not have been done with better efficiency and grace. And in the tents of Abraham the prospective bridegroom waited, prayed, watched the horizon, and momentarily expected the return of the servant. The Bible story, of course, is a beautiful picture of the great plan of Salvation conceived in the heart of God. At present the servant, the Holy Spirit, is here on His divine errand of finding a bride. The Bridegroom is spending His time in the Heavenly Tabernacle, waiting, praying, looking forward to the return of the Holy Spirit with the bride.

The over-all success of the servant's journey depended on the decision of Rebecca. Would she accept the idea of going to marry a man whom she had never seen? Would she rebel against the long, toilsome journey? Could she be persuaded to break home ties, leave parents and friends, and start a brand new life? NO-ONE ELSE COULD ANSWER FOR HER. A member of the family said, "Call the damsel and enquire at her mouth." In the tense moments that followed, with the servant of Abraham standing by, the question was put to her, "Wilt thou go with this man?" and she said, "I WILL GO."

When a man or woman is asked by the Holy Spirit to leave the old pattern of life and to start a new life it is often a moment of tremendous tension and soul-searching; for, to be "born again" is as great a drama as to be born the first time. The decision to go on the journey took C. T. Studd from the English cricket fields to the Orient. The journey for Livingstone went through Africa's steaming jungles. Daniel's decision led through a lions den and a kings banquet hall. The decision to go led Paul from the road to Damascus to the block of a Roman executioner. What is this compelling force that has led millions to make the journey? What is it about the over-all plan of God that causes men to take up the cross, reverse their order of life, and follow the

Holy Spirit into the future?

First of all we must consider the servant, the Holy Spirit. With each one of our hearts He has used the utmost tact, courtesy, and earnestness in persuading us to make the journey to the tents of Isaac. He has faithfully carried out His mission of telling us about the Lord, and has not exalted Himself or sought any personal praise. The passion of His heart has been to carry out the plan of the Father. And He has pledged to see us safely through the journey if we will go with Him. He is the "earnest of our inheritance," the pledge that more awaits us at the journey's end.

Another reason for our decision to go is the enjoyment of the gifts and graces our Lord has sent us as tokens of His love, and we may enjoy these gifts while the journey is in progress. Isaac had sent Rebecca many beautiful things to wear and much jewelry with which to adorn herself. Acceptance of these indicated her response to his love. Even so, Jesus has instructed the Holy Spirit to adorn the Bride with gifts, fruits, graces of character, and all that is needed to prepare her for the mighty events at the end of life's journey.

Finally, it is wise to remember that it is evening time. "And Isaac went out to meditate in the field at the eventide; and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming." The years of this dispensation are moving by very rapidly. Every sign about us indicates that we are approaching the journey's end and will suddenly be at the tents of our Heavenly Isaac.

The decision to go with the Holy Spirit is a personal decision. No-one can make it for another. And no-one



Richard Orchard

ever regretted making their decision for God.

"The road behind was rugged
and the road ahead seems long—
But it leads at last to life's
eternal goal —

So I'll keep on pressing on with
a smile, and with a song
For just o'er the next horizon
I'll see Jesus."

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL MAP

In the center pages of this issue of *Glad Tidings* you will find a special map that we have prepared for our readers who are faithful Sunday school pupils. The map includes each of the areas with which the lessons are to be concerned during this last quarter of 1955. The numbered sketches depict the chief action of each lesson, the numbers indicating the week of the quarter. The Scripture background and theme of each lesson is also indicated. The editor is grateful for the co-operation of Ralph W. Harris, Church School Editor of the Assemblies of God, in furnishing the lesson outlines from which the map was prepared. We hope many Sunday school workers will preserve the map throughout the quarter and find it of genuine help.

HAMLET—ON CHURCH FINANCES

(Apologies to Shakespeare)

TO PLEDGE OR NOT TO PLEDGE, THAT IS THE QUESTION.

WHETHER IT IS NOBLER IN A MAN TO TAKE THE GOSPEL FREE AND LET ANOTHER FOOT THE BILL, OR TO SIGN A PLEDGE AND HELP TO PAY THE CHURCH EXPENSES.

TO GIVE, TO PAY — AYE, THERE'S THE RUB — TO PAY.

WHEN ON THE FREE PEW PLAN A MAN MAY HAVE THE SITTING FREE, AND TAKE THE GOSPEL TOO, AS THOUGH HE PAID, AND NONE THE WISER BE, SAVE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, WHO — MOST HONORABLE MEN — CAN KEEP IT SECRET.

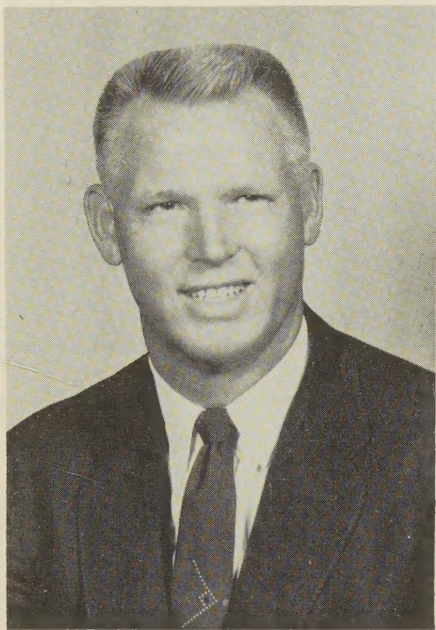
TO ERR IS HUMAN; HUMAN, TOO, TO BUY AT CHEAPEST RATE.

I'M WISE, I'LL WAIT, NOT WORK, I'LL PRAY, NOT PAY, AND LET THE OTHER FOOT THE BILL.

AND SO WITH ME THE GOSPEL'S FREE, YOU SEE.

Contributed by Mrs. G. C. Sturgeon of Oakland.

CHRIST'S AMBASSADORS



Speed-The-Light will have a new emphasis in our district during the first week of November. Rev. Paul Bruton, (pictured above) missionary from Africa, will be preaching five sectional STL rallies. The sections will be Capitol, Sacramento Valley, Central San Joaquin, Peninsula and Coast Counties. C. A.'s in these sections now have posters describing these coming rallies.

C. A. Chit-Chat

Now that the summer is over, and our C. A.'s are settled down again for the winter months it is time that we stop to think of what we can do to improve our respective groups this winter.

We would like to make a few suggestions which might prove useful in your groups. First I would like to suggest some young peoples cottage prayer meetings, where the young people get together by themselves for prayer.

In the Christian life, Bible reading cannot be stressed too much. We have found that one very effective method of getting C. A.'s to read their Bible is to organize a "chapter a day club." To be a member of this club all one has to do is read a chapter of the Bible a day. Then every so often outings are staged strictly for the members.

A third and final suggestion I would make at this time is follow up new contacts! Make new people feel

welcome! Expand your group to fit them! Nothing will drive new prospects away like feeling that they are not a part of the regular group.

As you finish reading this how about giving that C. A. who hasn't been out to service a "ring," and invite them to come to the next group activity.

Wilma Adams, reporter for the group at BIGGS, writes to tell us of a recent election. The new officers are: President, Johnny Hancock; Vice President, Betty Wooley; Sec.-Treas., Hazel Owens; and Reporter, Wilma Adams. Wilma also writes that retiring President Bonnie North did an outstanding job.

That is all for another month, be sure that we hear from you in the next issue. All news should be sent to Don Sturgeon, 1443 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California.

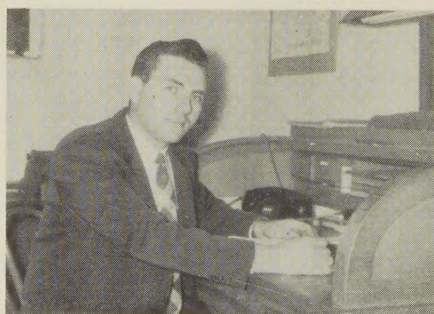
WEDDING BELLS

Reba Cannon and Ron Beller, both students of B. B. C., were married in Oakland on September 3. They have returned to Santa Cruz and Brother Beller is attending college.

Also on September 3, Lois Bogue and Max Rondoni, a former B. B. C. student, were united in marriage at San Jose. Pastor Sutton officiated at the wedding.

Vernita Meek became Mrs. Paul Nielsen on September 10, in Vallejo. Pastor R. C. Jones officiated at this quiet family wedding.

Angeline Edgar and Franklin Taylor were united in marriage in August. The bride is the daughter of the Jack Edgars who pastor in Ukiah, and the groom's father is starting a mission work in Fresno.



Here's Brother Kirk Soper, a truly hard working man. In addition to pastoring the church at Tracy, Brother Soper serves our C. A. office as secretary-treasurer. In spite of the warm, friendly smile on his face, he

President's Column

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you C. A.'s for making it possible for me to attend General Council this year. Your faithful support to the district office is greatly appreciated.

While attending General Council at Oklahoma City I was able to meet with Dick Fulmer and other members of the national C. A. staff. Verne McKinney, director of the Speed-The-Light program informed me that our district is nosing out in front of the rest of the nation in giving for 1955. I remember that we did the same thing last year but got bumped into third place at the last minute of the race. There's only one way to keep that from happening this year, and I'm sure you know what it is.

Kirk Soper, district C. A. secretary, treasurer, and Adrian Benning, pastor at Escalon made the trip with me. The three of us had a fine time.

Just a brief word of commendation to the Bernard Johnsons Jr. is in order at this time. Brother and Sister Johnson have resigned their pastorate at Stirling City and are going into evangelistic work.

Brother Johnson has done a very outstanding job in his Section as Sectional Chairman. Under his zealous ministry, the rallies have grown both spiritually and numerically. He is one of the first chairmen to develop successfully the divided rally system to a high degree of efficiency. He also instituted a program to give lovely plaques to C. A. groups who win the banner contest the most number of times during the year.

At the September 12th rally, held at Red Bluff, the C. A.'s expressed their appreciation and love by giving him an offering of \$72.00.

The C. A. Department will miss Brother Johnson, but we wish him and his wife God's very best in their future ministry.

Walt Boring.

is often greatly concerned about a strange malady that affects many of the secretary-treasurers of local C. A. groups. The ailment is called "FORGETTITIS AT THE FIRST OF THE MONTH." The affect is an often depleted bank account in the C. A. department's treasury. Kirk says that the only known cure is a regular commitment of financial aid to the office of Rev. Joseph Gerhart, marked very plainly to be put in the Christ Ambassador's account.

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Highlights of the

GENERAL COUNCIL

The 26th General Council, which met in Oklahoma City September 1-6, was by far the biggest in the history of the Assemblies of God. In the opinion of many of the delegates, it was also the best. There were 2,319 ordained ministers, 587 delegates, 2,320 visitors registered, making a total of 5,226. Thousands of others attended the meetings but did not register.

Some of the more significant events that transpired at this great General Council were as follows:

THURSDAY NIGHT: The convention opened with a great Youth Rally which packed out the auditorium seating 6,500 and filled a smaller auditorium with the overflow crowd. The speaker was Paul Paino, pastor at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and he brought a stirring and challenging message. The official report noted, incidentally, that Sister Dick Fulmer, formerly of this District, was the pianist for the occasion.

FRIDAY MORNING: The business session was preceded by a great early morning prayer meeting, a rousing Pentecostal song service and a time of congregational prayer. Greetings were brought by representatives of Canadian and Australian Assembly of God groups and also by the mayor of Oklahoma City. Our own Brother James Swanson, pastor at Hayward, was chairman of this meeting. General Superintendent, Ralph M. Riggs, brought the message of the morning under the title of "Call to Conquest."

FRIDAY AFTERNOON: Various members of headquarters departments were presented and a series of reports given for each of the departments. Each person in attendance was given a printed copy of the reports, and a synopsis of them also appeared in the September 11th issue of the **PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL**. Brother E. S. Christoffersen of Turlock was asked to pronounce the benediction at this meeting.

FRIDAY NIGHT: In the preliminary of the evening service, a transcription was made of a **REVIVAL-TIME** broadcast for release on the following Sunday night. The speaker for the evening was Wiley T. Davis,

This material was supplied to *Glad Tidings* by the courtesy of Robert C. Cunningham, Editor of *The Pentecostal Evangel*

pastor of Central Assembly in Macon, Georgia. Comments the official report: "Nearly everyone lingered after the service to seek the Lord and many were filled with the Holy Spirit."

SATURDAY MORNING: At the breakfast hour on Saturday many of the delegates met in groups representing specialized interests for breakfast meetings. Then at 9 a. m. all of the groups came together for their joint meeting. After devotions, Brother Riggs took charge as chairman and business proceeded. The first decision was as follows, "Except in case of ill health or infirmity, exhorters should be expected to preach at least twelve times a year. Licensed ministers (with the exception of those in full-time Christian service) should preach at least twenty times a year. Ordained ministers (with the exception of those in full-time Christian service) should preach at least twenty-five times a year."

SATURDAY AFTERNOON: The business session was devoted to a report of the Committee on Financial Appeals. As an outcome of this report, the delegates voted that licensed ministers should be required to contribute the sum of \$1.50 per month and that ordained ministers should contribute the sum of \$2.00 per month. There was also a resolution effecting some economy in the operation of the departments at head office.

SATURDAY NIGHT: The pioneer pastors were featured in this service with all of the pioneers seated on the auditorium platform. Some pastors present had pioneered as many as twenty-eight Assembly of God

churches. The speaker for the evening was Victor Trimmer, National Home Missions Secretary. The topic of his message was "The Pioneer of Life."

SUNDAY MORNING: There was a very precious devotional service with thousands in attendance. Our District Superintendent, W. T. Gaston, participated in the service, leading in prayer on behalf of all of the ministers and believers who were present. The service closed with Communion, served by the General Presbyters.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON: In a great Missionary Rally scores of missionaries in native costume paraded to the platform and thrilled the hearts of the assembled congregation. The speaker was Lillian Thrasher, who gave her farewell message to the Assemblies of God. The W. E. Day offerings were reported to have been \$33,000.

SUNDAY NIGHT: Over 12,500 people gathered at the Fair Grounds for the Sunday night evangelistic rally. This was said to be the largest religious gathering in the history of Oklahoma City and was certainly the largest in the history of the Assemblies of God. Bert Webb directed the service and James Swanson was the song leader. The main sermon of the evening was by D. Leroy Sanders of Cincinnati. His subject was "The Continuing Miracle." At the close of the service a goodly number accepted Christ as their Saviour.

MONDAY MORNING: After a devotional time, the election of officers proceeded, but no election was completed before adjournment.

MONDAY AFTERNOON: On the basis of the morning balloting it was announced that Brother Riggs had been re-elected to the office of General Superintendent. There was a change in the Bylaws concerning missionary offerings, providing as follows, "World Missions offerings should go 70% to Foreign Missions,"

(Continued on Page 14)

THAT WE MIGHT BE BETTER INFORMED, and united in a concerted, effectual ministry — our common goal:—

LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

a. Any person desiring to establish a new assembly shall make his intention known to the District Superintendent and the Sectional Presbyter and shall act in agreement with them.

b. In the event the proposed development is to be in close proximity to an existing assembly, the pastor of that assembly shall be consulted in determining the location of the new work.

It is recommended that all assemblies include in their name their affiliation with the Assemblies of God. All new assemblies shall be so designated.

Article XI, Sec. 3, a and b, Sec. 4
District Council Bylaws.



ROME

11 PAUL IN ROME. Acts 28.
Every man is personally
responsible for his at-
titude to God's Word.

Puteoli

ADRIATIC
SEA

12
PAUL THE FAITHFUL
SERVANT. Book of Acts.
As the year 1955 closes,
we should be happy to
voice Paul's testimony.

SICILY

Syracuse

Melita

10 PAUL'S SHIPWRECK. Acts 27, 28. Only the
man who is walking with God in daily fellow-
ship experiences peace in the daily trials.

Thessalonica
Berea
Macedonia
AGEAN
SEA
Corinth
Athens
Philippi
Neapolis

PAUL RETURNING TO
Acts 19:21 to 21:17. The
servant of the Lord will do
whatever the Lord will regardless of the cost.

CRETE

Fair Haven

M e d i t e r r a n e a n

CYRENAICA

SCENES FROM THE . . .
MISSIONARY' JOURNEYS OF ST. PAUL

Being the 1955 Fall Quarter Lessons for the Word of Life Series Sunday
School lessons published by the Gospel Publishing House, Springfield 1,
Missouri.

Glad Tidings
Magazine

Map by Seigfried Alwast and L. Thomas Holdcroft

Black Sea

BITHYNIA

MYSIA

6 THE MACEDONIAN CALL. Acts 15:36 to 18:22. We are debtors to bring the Gospel to all men.

ASIA

PAUL IN EPHESUS. Acts 18:23-19:41.

7 Preaching the Word in faith and power brings victory.

GALATIA

Antioch

Hierapolis
Laodicea Colossae

PAUL PREACHES WITH POWER. Acts 13, 14. God calls His witnesses.

Iconium

Lystra

Derbe

Attalia

Perga

Tarsus

Seleucia

Antioch

Rhodes

Salamis

Paphos

CYPRUS

SYRIA

2 SAUL'S CONVERSION
Acts. 9. True conversion results in obedience to God's will.

3 THE GOSPEL FOR THE GENTILES
Acts 10, 11. Every nation should have an opportunity to hear the Gospel.

PAUL ON TRIAL 9
Acts 24:10-25. The Gospel message rebukes sin; consequently it awakens opposition.

JERUSALEM

5 THE COUNCIL IN JERUSALEM. Acts 15:1-35. In Christ, all believers are one.

POWER FOR WITNESSING. Acts 1 and 2. Christians are empowered for witnessing by the Holy Spirit.

EGYPT

SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Now that it's October . . .

IT'S CHECK-UP TIME

You're not late yet! Check-up roundup is still going strong! If you have delayed sending yours in do it today. We need yours if we hope to make our district a "100 per center."

Perhaps you are wondering why we put so much emphasis on the Check-up. It's because we feel assured that checking up on your school can do you much good. It helps to keep your school in balance . . . showing you annually your deficiencies and your strong points. It keeps you on the advance toward a larger school! Recollecting the number of visitors and absentees in your Sunday School will make you feel the burden for a greater Sunday School effort.

The Check-up keeps your school soul-winning! Checking over the ones who have been saved during the year and the ones who have been added to the church through Sunday School, gives you a greater incentive to do more next year.

It helps us check up on our job too! It gives us an idea how well we have helped you advance during the past year. We can find out what you're lacking most and be able to fulfill your needs as best we can.

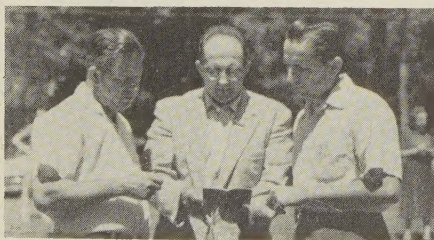
On a National scale — the Assemblies of God churches all over the nation are waiting for the Checkups to come in to see how close we came last year toward reaching our goal in the "On to a Million" plan.

So lend a helping hand! Send those checkups in right away.

"The school you help may be your own!"

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANDERSON

The Assembly of God in Anderson, California has shown a remarkable growth during the summer. They set an all time record average attendance of 149 in June and equalled it again in August. Congratulations Anderson! Keep up the good work.



The three leaders at the boys and girls camps at Bethany Park this past summer included (left to right): L. W. Suter, Camp Director; Roy Blakeley, Camp Evangelist; and Wm. O. Vickery, Assistant Camp Director. As we reported last month, each of the camps was wonderfully blessed, and it was the finest season ever at Bethany Park.

WHAT IS A BOY?

A boy is a person who is going to carry on what you have started. He is going to sit right where you are sitting and, when you are gone, attend to those things which you think are so important. You may adopt all the policies you please, but how they will be carried out depends on him.

He will assume control of your cities, states and nations. He is going to move and take over your churches, schools, universities and corporations.

All your books are going to be judged, praised or condemned by him. The fate of humanity is in his hands.

So it might be well to pay him some attention!

—War Cry.

ANNUAL
FALL

REGIONAL

Sunday School Conventions

SAN JOSE

First Assembly of God

October 17 - 18

MODESTO

6th and G Tabernacle

October 20 - 21

VALLEJO

First Assembly of God

October 24 - 25

EUREKA

First Assembly of God

October 27 - 28

RED BLUFF

Bethel Temple

Oct. 31 - Nov. 1

ROSEVILLE

First Assembly of God

November 3 - 4

Each Convention begins at 7:30



— SCHEDULE OF SERVICES —

9:45 A. M. - 2:00 P. M. - 7:30 P. M.



— CONVENTION TEAM —

Rev. Bert Webb - Mrs. Bert Webb

Mrs. Pauline Suter - L. W. Suter

Convention Theme: "A D V A N C E in Spirituality and Evangelism"

According to His Purpose

(Continued from Page 3)

or ease or success or happiness or comfort; God has in mind conformity to the divine image. After all, we need to be fitted to associate with our Lord throughout eternity.

SUFFERING CHRISTIANS

All suffering is not punitive in its nature; though, of course, sometimes it is the result of our sin. Sometimes however, it is sent in order that we may be tested and found faithful, or in order that we may be deterred from doing something or going somewhere outside of the will of God. Paul's thorn in the flesh was of this nature. Though it caused him suffering and humiliation, it enabled Paul to "glory in his infirmities that the power of Christ might rest upon him." God saw that there was a danger of Paul's being exalted above measure because of the abundance of revelations, and so He permitted Satan to give Paul the thorn in his flesh that he might be thus buffeted. It was for Paul's good and for the good of the people to whom Paul had been called to minister.

Who knows but that God, seeing the future and all that it holds in store, has not sent to us many of the experiences that we have regarded as unpleasant and wished we might have escaped in order to deter us from a course that He has seen would not be for our good and his glory?

I heard someone tell recently about a boy who was coming out of a driveway on his bicycle. The child was headed toward the middle of the street. Down the street a truck was coming at breakneck speed. The boy did not see the truck, and it appeared that he would surely be hit. A neighbor looking on gasped in horror at what he thought was an impending tragedy. There was no time to give warning. Then, just at the crucial moment, the bicycle wheel hit a bit of sand and the lad fell. He got up scratched and bruised and quite disgusted at what had happened. But if it had not been for this accident, which was trivial in nature, he would doubtless have been seriously injured and possibly killed.

We shall all understand someday what here in this world we cannot understand. All mysteries will someday be cleared up. When we shall have reached the end of the way we shall doubtless see that all the unpleasant experiences were a part of the divine plan for us. Working together, they were designed by God to conform us unto the image of His Son that we might be fitted to enter

into the glory and enjoy the divine fellowship throughout eternity.

Until that time shall come, we must walk by faith and not by sight. When we cannot understand, we must trust; when we are tried and tested, we must lean upon the strong arm that is able to uphold us according to the divine promise: "*Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed, for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee; I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness.*" (Isa. 41:10).

Acknowledgement: The cover picture was provided by Bernhard Embree, instructor in the Ecclesia Bible Institute of Hong Kong.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Church going is a means of grace, and is divinely appointed. It is helpful and restful. It is fine investment of anyone's time and it develops the best powers in the individual. But how easily it is neglected! Absence from next Sunday's services will make it easy to stay away in the week following. It takes only an irregularity or two to work serious havoc with a good habit. Of course we'll reach for excuses — and we may find plenty, but no good ones! Most excuses when analyzed simply mean: "I don't wish to." If you'll attend church regularly for one month you'll want to go two. Try it and see.

J. C. Snyder.

Programs for

INSPIRATION

— ★ —
"REVIVAL TIME"

Sundays, 10:00 P.M.

— ★ —
"World Literature
Crusade"

Sundays 7:45 A.M.

— ★ —
"Morning Reveries"

Saturdays 9:00 A.M.

— ★ —
"Bible Fellowship
Hour"

Weekdays 7:00 A.M.

— ★ —
"REVIVAL

Weekdays 9:15 A.M.

— ★ —
radio KEEN 1370 KILOCYCLES

HERE AND THERE



A few weeks ago, Brother William Vickery and his family announced their resignation of the pastorate of the Walnut Creek Assembly for the purpose of entering the evangelistic field. Hence we herewith present one of the newest evangelistic trios in our District. They are (left to right): William Vickery, Martha Susan Vickery, and Ernestine Vickery. The Vickerys were pastors at Walnut Creek for about 4 years and during that time the work enjoyed a consistent growth and heartening progress. Brother Vickery also served as C. A. Sectional Chairman and Sectional Sunday School Representative. For several years the Vickerys have made a substantial contribution to the Boys and Girls summer camps at Bethany Park, and this past year, Brother Vickery was assistant director. Concerning the future, Brother Vickery writes: "We feel a burden for the evangelistic field and trust the Lord for a fruitful ministry in that field of endeavor." The Vickerys are continuing to maintain their headquarters at P. O. Box 336, Walnut Creek, and no doubt many of their friends will wish to contact them there in the near future.

ALAMEDA — Evangelist Claude O. Wood has been in a special revival effort and reported good meetings. The meetings started September 4. Brother Wood is back on the field in full time evangelistic work after a complete and full miraculous healing. T. J. Custock is the pastor.

ATWATER — Pastor Otto Schmidt has a representation at B. B. C. of nine students.

ROHNERVILLE — Evangelist and Mrs. Thomas Ming, Sr. of Costa Mesa, California began revival meetings on September 11. Joseph C. Murray is the pastor.

CARMICHAEL — The assembly has nearly completed a lovely new tabernacle which was dedicated at a fellowship meeting in August. The pastor is Virgil E. Christian.

CASTRO VALLEY — Pastor R. J. Boyd writes: "Castro Valley completed their first D. V. B. S. this August with an enrollment of 83 and an average attendance of 58. The school director, Sister Kaye Knox, did all of the teaching and other teachers took charge of music, memory work and hand-

work. This arrangement worked fine.

"This young church would like to make an appeal for old *Evangelists* or Sunday School papers for distribution in this rapidly growing area. Please send to Pastor R. J. Boyd, 18519 Lake Chabot Road, Castro Valley, California."

CHOWCHILLA (Fairmead Assembly) — The following report was received about the South San Joaquin Sectional Fellowship Meeting, which was held August 22 at this assembly: "R. S. Bubbs brought the afternoon message. Then a lovely supper was served by the local church. Chester Paasch preached in the evening service. There was a special offering of \$105.00 received to purchase a cooling system for the Fairmead Assembly. There also was some material donated for interior decoration. All in all, we had a glorious fellowship." The Sectional Presbyter is J. C. Snyder and the pastor at Fairmead is Clifton Brown.

COLUSA — This assembly held a Youth Emphasis meeting with Evangelist Phil Lindvall from September 6 to 18. The pastor is Reuben A. Wilson, Jr.

HAPPY CAMP — The American Indian Fellowship was held here September 16, 17, and 18, during which time the church was dedicated. The pastor is E. M. Clark.

HAYWARD (Bethel Assembly) — October 2 is "Homecoming Day." The pastor is James R. Swanson.

KELSEYVILLE — Revival meetings have recently been held with Brother Jewell Rose of Shafter, California. The pastor reports: "The Lord has been blessing here in a wonderful way. The church was filled every night and the saints were really stirred. Several were healed and some were saved." Progress is being made on a new building. The pastor is Leonard H. Miller.

LOS BANOS — Ralph Knutson and Leland Good, B. B. C. graduates, have recently conducted a very successful visitation program and VBS. The pastor is Eugene Z. Lawrence.

OAKLAND (Oakland Revival Tabernacle) — By the time this issue reaches the hands of its readers this assembly will have nearly concluded its second annual Pacific Prophetic Bible Conference. The visiting speakers: N. E. Gresham of South Gate, California; Raymond Harms of Los Angeles, California; Charles Weston of San Francisco, California; Dr. A. D. Hurt of Boise, Idaho; O. C. Harms of Long Beach, California; Dr. Max A. X. Clark of Oakland, California; Paul Belchar of San Francisco, California; and Dr. Gerald B. Winrod of Wichita, Kansas. The conference extends from September 25 through October 3. The host pastor, and also a conference speaker, is Cecil J. Lowry.

OAKLAND (Calvary Temple) — The Sunday, July 31, evening service was a farewell service for the Gerald Boyds as they took their leave for duties in Santa Cruz. Brother Boyd now is Registrar and Business Manager of B. B. C.

Ardon Schmidt, B. B. C. graduate and former Student-body President, began his work August 28 as the new Minister of Christian Education and Music.

Recent guest speakers at this assembly have been V. Ernest Shores of Phoenix, Arizona, Leland Schultz of Sherburn, Minnesota, Evangelist George Barr, and James Baker, Principal of the Formosa Bible Institute, who also showed colored movies of the wonderful move of the Lord on that strategic island. While the pastor was at General Council, Fred J. Greve, Director of Christian Education at B. B. C., held the two services on September 11. Brother Greve reported a warm, responsive spirit. The pastor is Oliver L. Foth.

REDWOOD CITY — September 18 marked the first service for the new pastor, Brother Eddie R. Scratch, formerly pastoring the First Assembly of God in Akron, Ohio. Before Brother Scratch's arrival, three services had been held by Sister Mae V. Swanson, sister of the new pastor and also Dean of Women at B. B. C. On August 28, the services were conducted by Fred J. Greve, and he reports: "The church is anxiously awaiting its new pastor, and there is a wonderful spirit of unity."

RICHMOND (Central Assembly) — During Pastor Russell Griffin's visit to General Council, the services on September

4 were held by Brother Fred J. Greve.

SACRAMENTO (Bethel Temple) — A Revivaltime Rally with speaker C. M. Ward was held Thursday, August 25. All the Assembly of God churches in the area joined in this union service. This assembly recently enjoyed its annual Sunday School Picnic at William Land Park. During the pastor's absence at General Assembly, the pulpit guest in both services on September 4 was Dr. Kelso Glover. Clyde A. Henson is the pastor.

SAN FRANCISCO (Glad Tidings Temple) — During Pastor Donald F. Lehmann's recent visit to the General Council, services were held by Sectional Presbyter Leonard Palmer, and by L. Thomas Holdcroft, editor of the *Glad Tidings Magazine*.

SAN JOSE (Calvary Temple) — Pastor T. Kermit Jeffrey reports: "We are happy to announce that George Sondeno has been appointed Director of our Calvary Temple Choraliers."

Paul Kienel, fourth year B. B. C. student, will be assisting the pastor in various departments of the church on a part-time basis. Brother Kienel will be active in the Youth Department as well as in Sunday School.

SAN JOSE (Bethel Church) — The Evangelaires held their last service together on Sunday, September 4. This fine musical quartette is disbanding after four years' evangelistic travel. Thomas G. Sutton is the pastor.

SARATOGA — Pastor C. E. Watkins has resigned and has been succeeded by Leland E. Johnson. Brother Johnson is one of our newer ministers and has just been added to the ministerial list.

STIRLING CITY — Pastor Johnson writes: "We have just completed a successful two-week Bible Club with Sisters Mast and Webb of Morgan Hill. Our total enrollment was 94 and daily attendance was 51. We felt this was a very good number since there are only 350 people in the town at present. We also appreciated the ladies' ministry in music and the Word in several services. Pastors Bernhard and Doris Johnson have resigned to enter the evangelistic field."

WESTWOOD — Pastor James Adkins reports: "We had a very profitable evangelistic meeting with Brother Richard Orchard who is now pastoring in Toledo, Oregon. We had a number at the altar for salvation and a very good attendance throughout. His good ministry of the Word surely has made a spiritual impact on this community."

With the Lord

On September 5, Sister Sylvia (Mother) Combs of San Jose fell asleep in her Lord. She had been a charter member of Bethel Church of San Jose. She was the mother of Mrs. Leonard Rogers of Stockton, Mrs. Phil Sondeno and Robert Combs of San Jose, and foster mother of Mrs. Duane Gunderson, also of San Jose. Pastor Thomas Sutton officiated at the funeral.

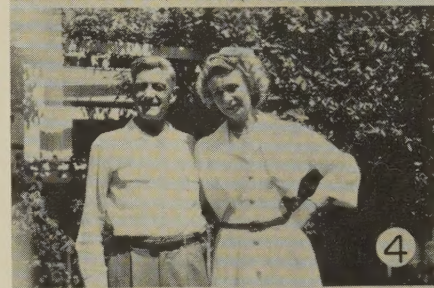
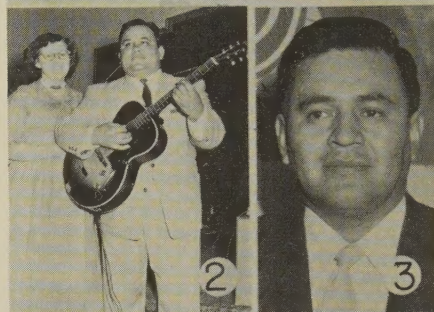
Indian Convention at Hoopa

Ralph and Mildred Holder of Hoopa, California, write: "God's richest blessings were poured out in a most glorious way during the Annual Hoopa Indian Camp Meeting which took place from July 31st to August 7th. The crowds were larger than usual, with a representation from 17 different Indian tribes as well as many folks from the District, many of whom camped on the grounds throughout the eight days of meetings.

"The morning Bible studies which were conducted by Rev. George Effman, a Klamath Indian, were inspirational as well as instructive, and were very well attended. The afternoon services as well as the C. A. meetings each evening were also graciously blessed of the Lord as the various visiting ministers gave forth the Gospel message. The evening messages preached by Evangelist John T. McPherson, a Cherokee Indian, were most timely and richly anointed by the Holy Spirit.

"The altar was filled with seekers for salvation at practically every service and many rejoiced as they pressed through to a real experience with the Lord. Others received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and many were refilled and renewed in the Spirit and healed in body. All glory to our wonderful God."

THE CONVENTION IN PICTURES: (1) A portion of the Hoopa Camp Meeting crowd in front of the church. Brother McPherson and Brother Effman, the camp speakers, are standing to the left. Several hundred attended the services daily. Over 4000 meals were served during the camp. (2) This smiling couple is Brother and Sister John McPherson. They also were teachers at the children's "Pow Wow" daily. (3) Brother George



Effman. (4) This is Rev. Ralph and Mildred Holder, pastors of Hoopa Assembly of God, and also host pastors of the Hoopa Camp Meeting. (5) Some of the children that attended Children's Church every morning during the camp. Brother and Sister McPherson were in charge and are standing to the left.

WHO'S NEW?

Little Naomi Jean arrived on August 5 into the home of the Ted Culbertsons. Brother Culbertson is a former B. B. C. student.

On September 2, Phil and Gwen Lyon welcomed a daughter, Priscilla Irene. Brother Lyon is a B. B. C. graduate and now pastoring in Half Moon Bay.

A daughter, Carolyn Irene, joined Sam and Bettie Sanders on Septem-

ber 3. The Sanders are pastoring in Fortuna, California.

The Fulton Buntains are the proud parents of a new daughter, Kathleen, who arrived September 6. This is their second child.

SUCCESSFUL V. B. S.

Bethel Church of San Jose reports a successful Vacation Bible School was held in their church with an enrollment of 313 boys and girls. Thomas Sutton is the pastor.

GENERAL COUNCIL

(Continued from Page 7)

5% to Foreign Missions office expense, 5% to National Home Missions, and 20% to District Home Missions. Also, Speed-the-Light offerings should go 70% to Speed-the-Light national projects, 10% to Office Expense, and 20% to Speed-the-Light district projects (purchasing and erecting property in pioneer fields)." By the end of the afternoon, since balloting was interspersed with discussions of other matters, the four Assistant General Superintendents and the General Secretary were all declared re-elected on the nominating ballots.

MONDAY NIGHT: The sermon of the evening was preached by Evangelist Willie M. Stevens of Denver, Colorado. At the close of the sermon, there was a great Divine Healing service. Numbers were healed, including a returned missionary who had been walking on crutches because of muscular dystrophy.

TUESDAY MORNING: Brother Wilfred A. Brown was re-elected as General Treasurer and Noel Perkin as Foreign Missions Secretary, each by nearly unanimous secret vote. Four non-resident Executive Presbyters were elected, including Dwight H. McLaughlin, to represent the northwest area, Charles W. H. Scott, to represent the northeast, A. A. Wilson, to represent the southwest, and Howard S. Bush, to represent southeast.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON: A new Bylaw was voted into force that provided for a committee on education consisting of twenty members. This committee would oversee the government and work of the Educational Department of the Assemblies of God in all its divisions. A Code of Ethics governing relationships between evangelists and pastors was adopted. A provision that all Assemblies of

W. A. BROWN PROMOTED TO GLORY



Our District has received word of the recent passing of Wilfred A. Brown, the General Treasurer of the Assemblies of God. Brother Brown went to be with the Lord on Monday morning, September 19, after a prolonged illness. At the time of the General Council, he had had a complete physical breakdown, and was in critical condition. He had served the fellowship as General-Treasurer for eight years and was particularly known in our District through his ministry at our 1954 Camp Meeting at Bethany Park.

Brother Brown is survived by his wife and three adult children.

NEWS BRIEFS

- ◆ The Ovid Dillinghams, well-known missionaries, arrived in Calcutta, India on August 23.
- ◆ The Pinellas Park Home in Florida near St. Petersburg has some limited space available for Assemblies of God laymen who have reached the age of 65 and are in good health and who wish accommodations as boarding residents. For information write: Department of Benevolences, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield, Missouri.
- ◆ Beginning in November, a new Spanish language Pentecostal Evangel will be published.
- ◆ Edwina (Mrs. Victor) Trimmer is the new WMC Field Representative.
- ◆ The second annual Evangelism Conference of the A. of G. will be at Memphis, Tenn. December 13-15.
- ◆ The Caleb Smiths, ministering on a Navajo Indian reservation near Gallup, New Mexico, report a recent water baptismal service with 14 baptized.
- ◆ The Calvin Zeisslers of Bacolod City, Philippine Islands, are rejoicing for 15 converts recently baptised in water.

God ministers planning to hold meetings in foreign lands should clear their plans with the Foreign Missions Department was adopted. An article was placed in the Bylaws authorizing the new Department of Evangelism. There were some changes made in the provisions and requirements of the Ministers' Benefit Association. At 5:30 p. m., following the benediction, the 26th General Council adjourned.

TUESDAY NIGHT: The big auditorium was nearly full even though most of the delegates had left. Evangelist Christian Hild preached in this final service, and at the conclusion of the sermon people knelt at their seats in consecration and turned the entire auditorium into a prayer room. Comments the official report: "Thank God for the many who were saved, baptised in the Holy Spirit, healed in body, or otherwise blessed during this General Council. It truly was a great Pentecostal convention."

FOR SALE

Lot No. 62 at Bethany Park. Asking price \$450. Contact Miss Zelda Dean, Rte. 2, Box, 349, Livingston, California.

A NEW DAY SOON

CAN'T MAKE HEAVEN IN AN EASY CHAIR
THE PATH IS NARROW THAT REACHES THERE
TRIBULATION DAYS WE OFTEN SHARE
HEART-ACHES AND SORROWS WE ALSO BEAR.

BUT SOME DAY SOON WE'LL FLY THROUGH THE AIR
QUICK AS A FLASH FROM THIS WORLD OF CARE.
AND ROARS OF THE LION FROM SATAN'S LAIR
TO A LAND "FAR OFF" WITH JESUS THERE.

A CITY OF JEWELS AND STREETS OF GOLD
NO HEAT OF SUMMER OR WINTERS COLD
CRYSTAL WATERS, THAT RIVER WE'RE TOLD
FLOWS THROUGH ORCHARDS THAT NEVER GROW OLD.

NO TIME TO WATCH, NO PARTING UP THERE
WITH JESUS HIMSELF THOSE JOYS WE'LL SHARE
REMEMBERING NOT THIS WORLD OF CARE
THIS ALL IS TRUE, GOD DOES DECLARE.

(AMOS 6:1)
(ST. MATT. 7:14)
(ACTS. 14:22 - ST. JOHN 16:33)
(ACTS 14:22)
(1 THESS. 4:17)
(1 COR. 15:52)
(1 PETER 5:8)
(ISA. 33:17)
(REV. 21:19, 20, 21)
(ISA. 49:10 - REV. 21:23)
(REV. 22:1)
(REV. 22:2)
(REV. 10:6 - 1 THESS. 4:17)
(JOHN 14:3)
(ISA. 65:17)
(REV. 22:6)

FRANK ISENSEE

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY COUNCIL

A. J. Morrison tells of . . .

MISSIONARY WORK IN HAWAII



*The A. J. Morrison
with
Adell and
Alva.*

Hawaii, the "Paradise of the Pacific" is truly the land of enchantment and a beautiful vacationland — to those who have the time and money to enjoy it. But those of us who have labored there know it to be far other than a vacation spot. The residents are of varied nationalities and spiritual needs, and they constantly demand the very best of Christian workers. The semi-tropical climate with its continual humidity has spelled illness and hardship for many a missionary worker. Equipment and materials rust and mildew rapidly, and the weeds grow quickly. Those who labor there find little time for rest or relaxation.

But God has been good to us in Hawaii and our works have grown and thrived. Under the field superintendency of Harold Headrick, we now have about 17 Hawaiian churches. Nine years ago there were only two! In 1950, Brother Noel Perkin, of Springfield, came to Hawaii and he dedicated our Honolulu church as well as two others on another island. He called our first Hawaiian convention and at that time set us in order as a Field District. Our District now operates the Aloha Bible Institute which last year enrolled 75 students.

Through the years, God has sent out many fine workers to Hawaii, and in many cases they have sacrificed freely to pioneer works and build fine churches. Congregations include: Hawaiian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, Samoan, Puerto Rican, and various nationalities of white people. Though English is the language used

in Hawaii, some of the churches have services in other languages because there are many who do not understand English well enough to be taught clearly. Since there are many heavy military establishments in Hawaii, all the churches have service men coming and going at all times.

The Congregational church of New England sent the first Christian missionaries to the Islands in 1820. A great revival swept the land in succeeding decades. There are records of wonderful miracles of healing fully 100 years ago. In later years, other churches gradually became established, including: Methodist, Christian, and Southern Baptist. At the same time, Seventh Day Adventists are strong, as are Jehovah's Witnesses who seek to undermine the faith of our new converts. The Mormons have been in Hawaii 105 years and have churches everywhere. At present they are building a three million dollar college a few miles out of Honolulu.

The very first Assembly of God work in Hawaii was started near Hilo over 30 years ago by Sister Mina Fischer. Later, Bernice Strickland, (now Bernice Proctor) established a fine work in Hilo itself. During the war, Peter Funk of Montana took over the work and built a lovely new church in Hilo. It was to Hilo that Sister Morrison and I first went to relieve the Funks in 1946.

In 1947, Brother Eldon Vincent went to Honolulu and pioneered a church in that city of nearly a quarter million people. A large building was eventually erected and the work has now grown into a well organized church with over 600 in Sunday school. This church houses Aloha

Bible Institute which includes among its faculty: the Albert Kehrs, and Eva and Sadie Boom.

Since 1949, Sister Morrison and I have been working to establish an assembly at Kailua, a community some 12 miles from Honolulu. We secured a lease on some property there owned by a Christian, Brother John Tavares, and began a Sunday school. On our first day the attendance was 19, but when we left it had grown to 164. Now, Brother Tavares has deeded this property to the Foreign Missions Department and has willed any other property to the Assembly of God church at Kailua. With this arrangement provided we felt the Lord releasing us from the responsibility of the work there and we have returned to California, perhaps to pastor or to do evangelistic work.

The work in Hawaii is a constant labor of patience and love. The people are burdened with all manner of family problems, sicknesses, trials and heartaches, and the missionary finds his schedule heavy as he attempts to minister to both spiritual and physical needs. And yet one has the conviction that his labors are not in vain in the Lord. How thrilling to know that when Jesus comes, there will be a great cloud of witnesses arise from those little Islands in mid-Pacific called Hawaii!

Farewell from the Nilsens



*Rev. and Mrs.
J. W. Nilsen*

Missionaries to the Belgian Congo, the J. W. Nilsens wrote a lovely letter a few weeks ago as they prepared to set sail for their field once more following their furlough. Their letter said in part: "Just before sailing we wish to express our thanks and appreciation to each church and WMC group for all their kindness to us while we have been home. The many things you have given to us will be a real help and a blessing to us on the field. We shall think of you often and your labor of love will not be forgotten. God bless you and reward you! We ask an interest in your prayers as we go forth to central Africa once again, that our ministry among those tribes will be a fruitful one. May God's grace and blessing be yours now and always."

Yours in His service in Congo,

The Nilsens.

BANCROFT LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

CURRENT SIGNS

Mental Illness —

It has been estimated that around nine million people in the United States are suffering from emotional or other personality disorders. About a million and a half of these are regarded as having serious mental illness, and another million and a half as mentally deficient. For any one day, between three and four persons in every 1000 will be found under prolonged care in mental hospitals, or approximately 525,000.

500,000 Teeter Near Alcoholism —

William A. Scharfeenberg, executive secretary of the National Committee for the Prevention of Alcoholism said approximately 500,000 persons are on the verge of alcoholism in California.

California has more alcoholics per capita than any other state, said Scharfeenberg, pointing out nearly 300,000 of these are confirmed addicts.

Scharfeenberg attributed the cause to the easy accessibility of liquor in the state.

California, he said, pays nearly \$300,000,000 annually for law enforcement and public health problems connected with alcoholics.

He added there "is no logical reason for taxpayers to assume the burden of caring for alcoholics when the problem is traceable to one industry."

"In God We Trust" —

Two atheists have recently gone to court to fight against the postage stamp which says "in God we trust." The men mailed envelopes with an inscription declaring that "the U. S. government is not founded upon the Christian religion" and thus deliberately had themselves thrown in jail so that they could serve a suit upon Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield. Are we Christians as militant for our faith as these atheists for theirs?

The Federal Debt —

The debt of the Federal Government equals the value of all land, homes, factories, machinery, cars, — everything of tangible value in U. S.

Experimenters Seek Proof of Life After Death —

In London, a group of churchmen and laymen are engaged in an effort to prove that life exists after death. They have formed themselves into The Churches Fellowship For Psychological Study, are conducting experiments "to confirm Christian belief that those who pass on continue in a fuller life."

American Churchgoers Total Record of 97,482,611 —

Total membership in the United States, of all faiths to date record 97,482,611. This figure was reported by the National Council of Churches which means six out of every 10 persons in the United States is listed as a church member. . . The figures show that church membership is growing faster than the population of the country.

The yearbook reported that church members now make up 60.3 per cent of the population, compared with 49 per cent in 1940 and 16 per cent a century ago. Protestant, 57,124,142 . . . Roman Catholic 32,403,332 . . . Jewish 5,500,000 . . . Eastern Orthodox 2,024,219 . . . Old Catholic and Polish National Catholic 367,918 . . . Buddhist 63,000.

Catholic Nuns Total 575,000 Members —

At present there are some 575,000 Roman Catholic nuns scattered all over the world. About 154,000 of them are in the United States, three times as many as in 1900. There are 25,000 Roman Catholic priests and religious brothers in the United States, twice as many as in 1900.

Shocking Facts About U. S. Conditions —

J. Edgar Hoover reveals that:—

People spend 8 times more hours at movies than at Sunday School; only 1 out of 12 persons attends church; 7 out of 8 children quit church and Sunday School attendance before they reach 15; 15,000,000 sex magazines are printed monthly and read by one third of the people; 1,000,000 girls have venereal disease; 100,000 illegitimate babies are born annually; almost 1,000,000 illegal abortions are performed annually; our nation harbors 3 times as many criminals as college students; of the 40,000,000 children, less than one third have had any religious instruction whatever; the crime rate has been increasing 4 times faster than the growth of the population.

Dr. Earl L. Douglass, Presbyterian clergyman and author, speaking of conditions on U. S. College Campuses states:—

"House parties, from all accounts are drunken orgies. This has been brought about largely by the changed status of women — women control the morals of the world. There is a bar in almost every boy's room in many of the principal colleges and the girls are allowed to be in those rooms until 7 in the evening. 'Alcohol is Cupid's best helper'."

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